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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Albania

SUBJECT Miscellaneous Albanian Military Information

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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1. Each infantry battalion consists of three companies of riflemen, one mortar company, one headquarters company, and a platoon of mule drivers.
2. Each company of riflemen consists of three platoons, each platoon consisting of four squads.
3. The arms of each infantry squad are as follows:
 - a. A sergeant squad-leader has a Soviet rifle, 1945 issue, with short barrel.
 - b. A private, observer (sic), has a similar rifle.
 - c. A private, sub-machine gunner, has a sub-machine gun D. R. (sic), Soviet type.
 - d. A private, assistant sub-machine gunner, has a rifle of Soviet type, 1945 issue, short barrel.
 - e. A private, expert marksman, has a Soviet rifle, 1945 issue, with long barrel.
 - f. A private, in charge of supplies and ammunition, has a Soviet rifle, 1945 issue, with short barrel.
 - g. A private, liaison (sic - dispatch carrier ?), has a Soviet rifle, 1945 issue, with short barrel.
4. The mortar company consists of three platoons. Each platoon consists of three squads. The composition and arms of the mortar squad is as follows:
 - a. A sergeant squad-leader, has a Soviet rifle, 1945 issue, with short barrel.
 - b. A private, mortar handler, carries barrel of mortar.

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- c. A private, loader, carries base of mortar.
 - d. A private, who aims mortar, carries a Soviet rifle, 1945 issue, with short barrel.
 - e. A private, in charge of supplies for mortar, carries a Soviet rifle, 1945 issue, with short barrel.
 - f. A private, supply and ammunition carrier, carries a Soviet rifle, 1945 issue, with short barrel.
 - g. A private, liaison (sic), carries a Soviet rifle, 1945 issue, with short barrel.
5. The machine gun company consists of three platoons, each platoon consisting of three squads. The composition and arms of the machine gun company are as follows:
- a. A sergeant squad-leader, carries a Soviet rifle, 1945 issue, with short barrel.
 - b. A private, who aims machine gun, carries principal part of machine gun.
 - c. A private, who loads machine gun, carries base of machine gun.
 - d. A private, who looks after supplies and ammunition, carries a Soviet rifle, 1945 issue, with short barrel.
 - e. A private, liaison (sic), carries a Soviet rifle, 1945 issue, with short barrel.
6. The headquarters company consists of an automatic rifle platoon with 23 automatic rifles, an anti-tank platoon with three anti-tank rifles, and a communications platoon with three telephones. Informant does not know further details of organization and arms.
7. The platoon of mule-drivers consists of three squads, each of which is composed and armed as follows:
- a. A sergeant squad-leader, Soviet rifle, 1945 issue, short barrel.
 - b. Six privates, mule drivers, who carry Soviet rifles, 1945 issue, short barrel.
8. According to informant there are three ammunition dumps in Korce, as follows:
- a. Ammunition dump of 8 Division, located at a distance of about one kilometer from the city and 300-400 meters east of the highway from Korce to Florina. It is housed in an isolated building which is surrounded by fruit trees.
 - b. Ammunition dump of 9 Infantry Regiment, located 300-400 meters southeast of the Moslem cemetery.

Each of these dumps has a guard consisting of a sergeant and six enlisted men.

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9. Training is done on the basis of programs issued by the battalions. The regular commanders of the units do the training. Training lasts for eight hours each day, regardless of weather conditions, except for three days a week when there is political instruction on the principles of Marx.
10. During the entire period of training an enlisted man shoots only three times, viz. six cartridges from a distance of 200 meters, four cartridges at an elevated target at a distance of 100 meters, and four cartridges at a target below him at a distance of 100 meters.
11. Officers are obliged to take lessons in the Russian language.
12. According to informant the soldiers of the border guard have stopped receiving special pay and are now selected from the infantry.
13. Informant visited the airdrome at Tirana in July 1949; he reports that, at that time, there was only one airplane at the airdrome, and it was of a type unfamiliar to him. There has been no work done for the improvement of this airdrome.
14. Informant had drilled on the airfield at Korce, and he reports that this airfield has been completely ruined and is unfit for landing any aircraft.
15. In February 1950 informant visited the airfield at Gjinokaster. He says that it has been abandoned and sheep are grazing there. There was no building of any kind at that airfield, and there were no airplanes there at the time of his visit.
16. Informant added that there is a Soviet colonel with each Division of the Albanian Army, but he has no contact with the troops.

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